

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0044] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

With reference to Figure 7, the main injector plate 78 defines a plurality of oxidized pathways 86 relative to which a plurality of injectors in an injector element 90 is provided. The injector element 90 generally extends along a length that is provided near a plurality of the oxidizer pathways 86. Provided in the injector element 90 is an injector slot 92 that extends from an orifice 94, which can also be referred to as an aperture. Fuel is provided from or through the injector orifice 94 to the injector slot 92. The slot 92, as described herein, assists in forming a fuel fan or fuel spray 96 relative to one of the oxidizer pathways 86. The injector element 90 may provide a plurality of the injector slots 92 and injector orifices 94 for each of the oxidizer pathways 86, or only one slot 92 per pathway 86 may be provided. Nevertheless, the injector element 90 is able to provide the fuel fan 96 to at least one of the selected oxidizer pathways 86.

Please replace Paragraph [0046] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

Once the fuel is provided to the fuel feed cavity 98 under a selected pressure, the fuel moves towards and through the injector orifice 94 into the injector slot 92. The fuel fan 96 is formed as a fuel jet 100 exits to the orifice 94 from the fuel feed cavity 98. The fuel jet 100 generally engages a downstream or splash plate, such as the splash face or

surface portion 102 of the injector element 90 and ~~in~~ is a spread across the ~~splash plate~~ or splash face 102. As the fuel is spread across the splash face 102, the fuel spreads out such that it exits the injector slot 92 in a substantially open or fanned form.

Please replace Paragraph [0048] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

With continued reference to Figure 8, the injector orifice 94 may be any appropriate size and ~~is~~ may be about 0.001 to about 0.1 inches (about 0.254 mm to about 2.54 mm). The injector orifice 94, however, may be any appropriate size or shape. For example, the injector orifice 94 may be a selected geometrical shape, such as an octagon, or other appropriate polygon. In addition, the injector orifice 94 may be a slot substantially equal to the injector slot 92 provided in the injector element 90. Therefore, the injector orifice 94 need not simply be circular or round in shape and size, but may be any appropriate size to provide the fuel jet 100 through the injector orifice 94 to engage the splash plate surface 102. In addition, the length of the orifice 94 may be any appropriate length. Nevertheless, it may be provided to include a length to diameter ratio (L/D) of about zero to produce a substantially free jet of fuel 100. Therefore, the fuel jet 100 may nearly immediately impinge the splash plate surface 102 to form the fuel fan 96.

Please replace Paragraph [0051] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

The nose 106 of the injector element 90 generally tapers at a half angle α of about 2 to about 20 degrees, which can allow the injector nose 106 to include an internal angle of about 4° to about 20°. Generally the half angle α may assist in assuring that the heated oxidizer that exits the oxidizer pathways 86 does not form eddies or turbulence as the heated oxidizer passes the injector element 90. It may be optional to provide the planar portion 108 to form a flame holding area near the injector element 90 for selected reasons. Nevertheless, providing a substantially sharp or pointed nose area 112 (shown in phantom) may assist in assuring that the heated oxidizer passes the injector element 90 without forming a substantially flame holding area and that substantially no turbulence is formed near the injector element 90.

Please replace Paragraph [0054] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

In addition, though not intended to be limited by the theory, the splash plate surface 102 may assist in flowing the fuel such that fans or sheets in addition to eddies are formed in the fuel fan 96 as it exits the injector element 90 to engage the hot oxidizer emanating from the oxidizer pathway 86. This may assist in assuring a substantially complete mixing of the fuel with the oxidizer emanating from the oxidizer pathway 86.